

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated April 7, 2009. Claims 45 to 55 are pending in the application, of which Claims 45, 46 and 55 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 38 to 55 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over JP 2002-112009 (Kazuhiro). Claims 47 to 54 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Kazuhiro in view of U.S. Published Appln. No. 2002/0085223 (Bigi). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

The present claims concern transmitting image data input by a first device to a second device and then causing the second device to output the transmitted image data. In one aspect, if image data is generated by the first device in an upside down condition, the first device signals the second device to set the directions of the image data and so that page printing is performed properly positioned on a print sheet. In another aspect, a page number for the sheet is also properly placed on a printed sheet as the second device properly sets the direction of the image data independently of the printed position of the image data.

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 45 is directed to an image processing system which includes a first device at least having an input unit capable of inputting image data and a communication unit capable of performing data communication, and a second device at least having a communication unit capable of performing the data communication and an output unit capable of outputting image data. The system includes a remote output mode setting unit adapted to set a remote output mode for performing through the communication unit the data communication of the image data input by the first device and thus causing the second device to output the communicated image data; a direction detection unit

adapted to detect a direction of the image data input in the first device; a transmission control unit adapted to perform control to transmit the image data to be output by the second device in the remote output mode from the first device to the second device and transmit the direction of the image data detected by the direction detection unit and an instruction of page print to the image data; a reception control unit adapted to cause the second device to receive the image data, the direction of the image data and the instruction of the page print transmitted from the first device; an image processing control unit adapted to control the second device so as to perform an image process to the image data received from the first device, according to the direction of the image data received from the first device; and a controller adapted to synthesize a page number to the image data to which the image process was performed by the second device, and to cause the second device to perform output of the image data to which the page number has been synthesized.

Amended independent Claims 46 and 55 are directed to a method and a computer-readable storage medium, respectively, substantially in accordance with the system of Claim 45.

In a system in accordance with the claims, even if the direction of the image data input by the first device is of an opposite direction, the relevant image data is not output in the that direction. Moreover, the page print is not performed in the opposite position. That is, the directions of the image data input by the first device are corrected, and page printing is performed in the correct position. In contrast, in a conventional system, if upside-down image data is input by a first device and page printing is to be performed at the lower-right of a sheet, the printed image data is upside-down although the position of the page print may be in the correct lower-right position of the sheet. Further, if a page number is synthesized for placement at the lower-right of the sheet in regard to the upside-down image data and then the image data is rotated by

180°, the printed image data then appears in the correct direction, but the page print is incorrectly performed at the upper-left of the sheet. However, in a system in accordance with the present claims, the upside-down image data is rotated by 180°, and the page number is synthesized at the lower-right position of the sheet, whereby the printed material on which the image data is printed in the correct direction and the page print is performed at the correct position.

In contrast to the present claims, Kazuhiro discloses that a device on a transmission side transmits image data and a direction of the image data to a device on a reception side, and that an image data rotation process is performed by the device on the reception side according to the transmitted direction of the image data. Thus, the direction of the image data is set to the correct direction before the image data is actually output. However, Kazuhiro is silent about a case where page printing is performed. Accordingly, Kazuhiro does not disclose or suggest synthesis of a page number to rotation-processed image data. Accordingly, even if a technique for performing page print is combined with Kazuhiro, such a combination cannot obtain controlling of order of an image data direction setting process and a page print process as featured in the claims.

In light of the deficiencies of Kazuhiro as discussed above, Applicant submits that amended independent Claims 45, 46 and 55 are now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

The other pending claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

CONCLUSION

No claim fees are believed due; however, should it be determined that additional claim fees are required, the Director is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 06-1205.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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